

MAINE FARMER

AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY MARCIAN SEAVEY.]

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

[E. HOLMES, Editor.]

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THE FARMER.

HALLOWELL, TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 10, 1838

New-York Courier, versus Wheat Bounty in Maine.

The Editor of the New-York Courier & Enquirer,—even James Watson Webb, himself,—is out upon us poor wights here in Maine, because we have dared to transgress the principles of his creed in political Economy, "*as the science is now taught*," and have given a bounty for the encouragement of the culture of wheat. We know not what he may consider "sound principles of political economy," nor do we care what particular theories he may have imbibed in regard to the policy of encouraging this or that pursuit by bounties or otherwise. We look at those stubborn things, called facts,—and square our conduct accordingly. It is one thing to theorize how a nation should conduct itself toward the productive classes, and another thing to reconcile that theory to the actual existing state of things, and pursue a course which present events demand.

He lays it down as a settled truth, that Maine cannot raise her own bread. We lay it down as a settled truth that *she can*. He probably knows nothing about our soil, climate, or abilities. We profess to know a good deal about them. And we do know, for we have seen with our own eyes and examined with our own personal observation, and we have labored upon the soil with our own hands, and we are as sure that this State can raise, not only its own bread, but also a surplus for the cities of New-York if they need, as we are of our own existence.

Why does n't she do it? Because the pernicious belief, which the Editor of the Courier has inculcated, and which many who have never been in Maine, also inculcate, has, strange as it may seem, been infused into the minds of our own farmers, and they have trusted to this *damning* theory, rather than their own industry and the powers of their own soil.

To rouse them from their deadly stupor—to turn them from this suicidal course, and to urge them to the importance of relying upon their own resources instead of stretching forth their imploring hands to New-York for sustenance was the object of offering the bounty on wheat. It has thus far done well. Webb may theorize as much as he pleases about it. He cannot do away the fact; and no man under Heaven can hide the fact that it is producing the desired result.

Many farmers have been astonished at their own crops, and many and many an acre yielded the last season from thirty to fifty bushels of prime wheat. Has New-York done better? All we want is to cultivate as many acres of wheat in proportion to our population as they do in New-York, and there will be no fear of a lack of bread among us.

And this will be done. Our farmers are now aroused to the importance of feeding themselves at least, and they will, unless some providential calamity should befall them, accomplish what they have so nobly begun. But let us hear what him of the Courier saith of us. He claims to be a "gentleman," but he is no judge of the powers and

resources of Maine. Nor can he be very sound in Political economy, when his theory will not tally with established facts.

"What can be more in opposition to every sound principle of political economy, as the science is now taught, and to the results at which every reflecting mind must arrive, than this granting a bounty to those who cultivate wheat in Maine? And if we mistake not a similar policy is pursued in Massachusetts, and we believe has even been suggested in the Legislature of this State. Are the people in this country of intellect so obtuse, that they cannot discover without a bribe, those branches of industry which their natural advantages allow them to pursue with the most advantage? And is not the conclusion inevitable, from the mere fact of Maine not being a wheat growing state, that the people there have found a more profitable employment for their capital and labour? This endeavor to change the natural current of things appears to us little short of arraigning the wisdom of Providence, who in the different degrees of fertility it has given to different soils, in the different climates and difference of national character of various countries, has laid the foundation of that mutual dependence which leads to social intercourse and kind feeling between man and man.

In our Southern States, too, where we should have least expected it, they have raised an excitement on the subject of the importing trade from Europe. It is all engrossed by the northern cities, they say, although the South produces the exports and a loss of some millions, founded of course on imaginary data, is exhibited, which the South annually sustains from this course of trade. The discussions on the Tariff, would, it was to be hoped, have led to more liberal and more correct opinions there, on this and kindred subjects. We do not intend seriously to refute the grounds assumed by the Southern Convention. They carry their own refutation with them. We would submit, however, whether it would not be better, first to consider the hardship they endure in having their produce carried to market, and the return brought back to them even from New York in Eastern ships, and then calculate the freight they lose in consequence?—Why not grant a bounty on the tonnage of vessels registered in Southern States and manned by Southern seamen? The difficulty would be, it is true, to find the latter description of persons, but not more difficult we should think than to make Maine a wheat growing State. If the people there will turn agriculturists instead of navigators, why should not the people of Georgia turn sailors instead of planters? To carry out these covetous notions would require far greater absurdities. We had hoped the time had arrived when the citizens of the different States of the Union, instead of looking with a grudging eye at the natural advantages which one possessed and another did not, would content themselves with those which had fallen to their share, and be grateful and proud that a combination of all might be found under the stripes and stars.

We leave the Editors of the South to take care of their own business, but we would just answer that there is no natural obstacle to prevent the Georgians becoming competitors with the New-Englanders in the importing trade. Not the least. The broad Ocean is before them. The nations and cities of the world are as free for them as for us; and if they please to step forward they can enjoy the same privileges. But why do they not? Because of the peculiar state of public opinion among them. They have either thought it unprofitable or impracticable for them to do it. And we are far from believing it would be very absurd to offer a bounty to change the sentiment in regard

to these pursuits, and rouse them to a wholesome energy in the work.

Would it be more absurd to do this than to give a bounty to the fisherman who shall perform certain duties? And has not this bounty been the means of sending the fishermen of the United States into every nook, and inlet, and sound, and sea, where a fish could be caught? And has it not been a nursery in which have been nurtured most of our hardy and enterprising seamen, until they have become the pride of their country, and the wonder of the world?

And yet, at this late day, the sage Editor of the Courier has discovered that a Georgian cannot be a sailor—a Maine farmer cannot grow wheat, and that a bounty to encourage any particular pursuit is the height of absurdity.

New Manure.

Our readers will perceive, by reference to another column, that a Frenchman is making considerable noise across the water, in consequence of a new invention or discovery of his in the mode of decomposing vegetable matter in a short time, sufficiently for the purpose of using it as manure. At present the process is kept secret, but a purse is about to be made up to pay him for his secret, in order that it may be made known to the world.

Should the expectations which are raised concerning it be realized, it will be of immense service to the Agricultural community.

Size of our Paper.

We have heard some complaint that our paper has been diminished in size. This is not correct. It has not been diminished a single line or letter. The impression may have arisen from its being printed on another kind of paper, and there not being quite so much margin as before.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Prevention of Smut in Wheat.

A kind Providence has made ample provision for the cure of diseases in man and beast; and the Materia Medica furnishes a description of what is to be used in the various diseases that afflict the human race. Man can describe his own symptoms when he is diseased; and the experienced Physician, from the symptoms described and noticed by himself, can apply the proper remedy; but his success must depend on a right decision of the cause of the disease he intends to remove.

In the vegetable world the case is different, and the cause of existing evils in our grain crops is more difficult to ascertain. Still, we admit, when the cause is known, it will aid in finding out a cure for these evils—whether from disease or insect.—But to the farmers in general, whose crops are injured and perhaps destroyed by smut, rust, or the insect, the cause is not of so much importance to them, as a successful means of removing the evil; and if any have discovered a remedy, which they can apply, the end to them is answered.

As the time is near for the sowing of wheat, it is proposed to give a few of the successful means used in England and France for the prevention of smut in wheat. The means used in this country has been given to the public.

The surest means used, and on which the most eminent writers on agriculture agree, are salt and lime. The usual mode is to soak the seed in brine, skim off the floating kernels, and after the seed is removed from the brine to drain, to sift *fresh quick lime of a good quality* on the seed, as soon as it is sufficiently drained.

The authorities from which extracts are made, and the mode used to prepare the wheat are now offered.

At Rambouillet, the Royal farm in France, M. L'Abbe Tepier used lime alone, and the success is thus described by him.

"Of all the processes I have tried, I shall report only the most simple, and that which appears to me to have had constantly the greatest success.

"For ten bushels of wheat, take 4 quarts of *fresh quick lime of good quality*, and 62 quarts of water; boil a part of this water, and when it is boiling strew it on the lime,—a little cold water will stop the effervescence,—stir it with a stick till the lime is dissolved; turn it into a vessel that will also contain the wheat that is to be prepared, and let it remain long enough to impregnate the seed sufficiently." This is done in different ways, but he recommends the following; "Throw the seed into those vessels that contain the lime water, and leave it there 24 hours, stirring it a little, and taking off with a skimmer the smutty and bad grains which swim. After that it is taken out to dry."

From the "Bath Papers," a valuable agricultural work, the following extracts are made.

"Sound seeds were taken from a smutty ear of wheat, and a part were rinsed and soaked in simple water; and other seeds of the same sample soaked in a strong solution of salt and water. No difference appeared from the first coming up to the maturity, except in the tittering or the putting out of many more stalks, and in this, and the fulness of the kernel, and the seeds that were brined were more productive."

Another extract from the same work. "The wheat is to be wetted with *old urine*, three quarts to one bushel, turned about with a shovel, till the urine is imbibed; then sift plenty of *quick lime* over it, and turned well over with a shovel, and left in a heap until next morning."

From a work entitled the Complete System of modern Husbandry, by R. W. Dickerson, M. D.

In this work, *M. L'Abbe Tepier's use of lime* is much approved. It is also stated that the use of brine, stirring the seed wheat into it, and skimming off those that swim, is a sure preventive.

For more than 30 years, the writer of this article has prepared his seed wheat with brine and lime, and has never had smutty wheat on his farm.—There is a little variation in the use of them. The course pursued was to prepare a *strong brine*,—pour in the wheat slow, and skim off the kernels that swim, and stir the wheat until the kernels cease to rise; then weaken the brine, putting 1 or even 2 parts of water to one of brine, and let the seed remain for 12 or 15 hours. The seed was then taken from the brine—put in a heap, on the barn floor, and good quick lime, slacked for the purpose, was thrown on the heap, and turned with a shovel until every grain was white with lime.

Various attempts have been made to show the cause of smut; but the difference of opinion is so great, and even contradictory, that the question is unsettled. A further communication may be made on this subject, assigning many of the causes for the smut, and may prove useful here, if it induces some of our farmers to pursue the experiments.

C. V.

March 28, 1838.

HEDGES.

MR. HOLMES:—Perceiving by some queries of "A Subscriber of the Farmer," in the 2d number of the present volume, that an interest has at length been excited in one, at least, of your subscribers, in the subject of hedges, I have thought that your correspondent might profit by the result of some of my experiments and observations. It has long been a subject of surprise to me, that some way has not been devised by our enterprising yeomanry to obviate the annually recurring necessity of heaping up an immense row of bushes, as an apology for a fence, in situations where other materials cannot be easily procured, or made to withstand the action of frost.

There are some objections to each of the propositions which you advanced in answer to your correspondent's enquiry, which I think do not bear with equal force against a couple of our native shrubs, which every one knows bid defiance to the reign of our climate and the ravages of insects.—The thorn as well as the beech may, doubtless be employed to good advantage in many situations; but they must be kept from the cattle till they attain a considerable growth, which cannot be done in pastures and fields in which they run a part of the season. They, may, it is true, be suffered to remain in a nursery until they have attained too great a growth to be injured by browsing, but in that case the labor in transplanting must be considerable.

I have made some considerable experiments in transplanting the spruce, (*abies picea*), and fir (*pinus balsamea*), which have convinced me that they make much the cheapest, best, and most durable fence for clayey ground. I believe the spruce generally thrives best in light and dry soils, but it will grow with great rapidity to a size sufficiently large to make a good fence, in the most clayey and wet situations. The fir, however, is naturally found in clayey and wet soils, in which it seems to thrive best. Both will attain a size sufficient to make an impervious fence in a few years, and I believe, much sooner than almost any species of deciduous shrub. The principal advantages maintained by the spruce and fir, however, is that they can be planted in any situation without being exposed to injury from cattle or sheep, and can be procured in abundance in almost every part of Maine.

They can be transplanted at almost any season by using sufficient caution; but the spring and fall are the best times. My attempts to transplant them have uniformly proved successful, not one in a hundred having died, when the necessary precaution of removing some of the soil still attached to the roots was attended to. My method is to choose a situation in which the soil is not too much encumbered with roots, and take up a sod with a hoe or shovel, in which a tree from 3 to 18 inches in height, remains rooted, and place the sod in a hole prepared for the purpose. If the ground is very wet and soft, a more expeditious, and an equally safe way, is to place the sod on the ground and press it in with the feet. Trees planted in this way, twelve or eighteen inches from each other, and headed down when they have attained the desirable height, will, in a few years, make a fence which will effectually resist the whole horde of domesticated animals, and will not be attended with the inconvenience of shoots constantly springing from the roots, at a distance from the trunk as in the thorn.

In pastures and situations where the shade would not be injurious, I should prefer planting the trees ten or twelve inches from each other, and suffering them to grow to their natural height for fuel. S.

A COMMON PLACE IGNORAMUS.

Conversation between two Neighbors.—No. 1.

MR. HOLMES:—I was present when I listened to the following conversation between two neighbors—A. and B.—B. inquired of A. if he took any Agricultural paper. A. replied that he did not; and observed that he thought he knew enough about farming already; and surely he did not think these *book farmers* or Editors could teach him. "But," said B., "no doubt you know much; will you allow that all your neighbors know as much as you do?" A. replied that he did not think they did. "Well, then," said B., "would not you do them a favor, by penning what you know on the subject, and handing it to the Editor of some paper they read, that they may be as good farmers or as wise as you are." Says A. "Let every man take care of himself. If I were to inform them how to raise more or better articles than they now do, who would buy mine? Would it not be for my interest, if every one except myself, was as ignorant of Agriculture as the Aborigines of this country who hoed their corn with a clam shell."

B. Then you admit that you care nothing for any one except yourself. Do you not know that a nation prospers and is able to support a dense population only according as agriculture flourishes, or the knowledge of the arts and improvements is spread abroad.

A. Improvements! Why, Sir, I know that what you call improvements have been the ruin of many. Had the mariner's art never been known, how many lives would have been saved. Steamboats have been the cause of much evil, and many deaths. I believe the times better, formerly, before any of your stoves, Thrashing Machines or Factories were invented, than at present. Tell me not of improvements!

B. Then you believe that an Agricultural Journal, the Editor of which is careful to collect and bring before the public the improvements made in this and other countries on the subject of Agriculture and the improvement of stock and implements of farming, has been of no benefit,—do you?

A. I know that stock is larger now than formerly, but they eat more—and these great oxen are more apt to break chains, and split yokes. How much we have to pay now for hoes and other tools! I am not sure that if we were to hoe our corn with a clam shell we should not be as well off now. I know that the better our tools are, the more we raise—and the more people can be supplied; but who cares for that? They only want the more to eat,—and they must have their beef, pork, and other things; and all this causes hard work for me. Have I not to work hard in haying time to support stock? I am not certain that the world would not get along pretty well with half the number of men and brutes that now exist in it.

B. Are these really your sentiments? Can you be in earnest when you reason so?

A. Yes; or I should take an Agricultural paper, and strive for the good of my race; but believing as I now do, that we have too many to strive for, the good of —

Here the conversation ended; and I could but think that too many act as A. talked.

A CHALLENGE.

MR. HOLMES:—I have read somewhere a story of a celebrated French General, who, when he was young, and a subaltern officer in the army, received several challenges to fight with other officers, of which he took no notice for several days; at length he was ordered by his General on an important and somewhat desperate enterprize, which required great skill, and cool determined courage. Our

hero now set down and wrote an answer to each of his challengers, acknowledging the receipt of their respective communications, and his readiness to settle the same in the most honorable manner. This he thought might be done on the present occasion, if they would accompany him in the contemplated enterprise, and exert their firmness and courage for their own, and the honor of their King and country.

And, Mr. Editor, I find that some of your correspondents, now and then, showing some "signs of fight" with me,—anxiously waiting an opportunity to display their skill and valor in "wordy war." I have lately been pocketing papers in silence, waiting, and musing on the best and most honorable method of meeting my valorous antagonists. During this period of mental cogitation, suited to the importance of the occasion, I have, by the kindness of a friend, been favored with a bundle of agricultural papers from various parts of the United States:—and have been pleased to find some of my communications noticed in an honorable manner; but, to my mortification, I cannot find any notice taken of some of the desperate "tugs of war" and "wordy battles" in which I have been engaged. I am, therefore, exceedingly fearful that I have missed some "point of honor" in these "scrapes";—Now, therefore, be it known—that in consideration of these premises, and believing a favorable opportunity will soon occur to display our skill and valor, and in furtherance of the best interests of our beloved country,—

I do now publicly challenge ye all, my valorous antagonists and most honorable gentlemen of the quill, whether in or "Near Peru," or elsewhere, to decide each and all the several disputes in which we have been engaged, in the following manner:

A court of honor shall be instituted, consisting of any three of the most distinguished Editors of Agricultural papers in the United States, who shall decide our claims on the following principles: that is to say, to him who shall write and communicate for the columns of the Maine Farmer, the most useful matter during the space of one year from the date hereof, his name shall be published in all the Agricultural papers in the United States, as the man whom the Agricultural community "delight to honor."

And this court shall be final judges of what constitutes useful matter, as well as all matters of evidence; or in other words, shall be judges of both "law and fact."

And now, Mr. Editor and Publisher, what say ye to this?—will ye be "my friends" in "this affair," by tendering this challenge to my antagonists, and settling the preliminary rules by which the combatants must, as honorable men, be regulated?

J. H. J.

Peru, March 10, 1838.

To the Editor of Bell's Weekly Messenger.

Corner of Half Moon street, Picadilly, }
London, December 30, 1837. }

Sir—I beg to hand you a copy of a prospectus relative to a new manure, which I drew up in the course of last spring, by the request of the Earls of Leven and Melville, from the Report of the Committee of the Academy of Agriculture at Paris, and from the certificates given to the inventor by thirty-eight large landed proprietors in France; testifying the value of his invention.

Lord Leven considered, and in which opinion I had the honor to concur, that the best mode of giving the benefit of the discovery to the British farmer would be, for a committee to be formed for the purpose of collecting a subscription sufficient to defray M. Jauffret's expenses to this country; for the purpose of his making experiments before some person appointed for the occasion.

That an agreement should be entered into with

M. Jauffret, that should his invention answer the description given of it, that he should communicate the secret by which he effected the operation, for a sum of money previously agreed upon, and that experiments should be made with the manure under different circumstances, as to soil, &c. to ascertain its relative value with regard to other manures, taking all things into consideration. I have the honor to be, sir, your very obedient servant,

HUMPHREY GIBBS,

Honorary Secretary of the Smithfield Club.

Prospectus of a process for obtaining cheap and valuable Manure, without the aid of Cattle, invented by M. Jauffret, of Aix.

A method has been discovered in France of making manure as it may be wanted, without cattle, in twelve days, and with great economy, as appears from a report made to the committee of the Academy of Agriculture at Paris, by M. Chatelain, its secretary, who, with M. Cailleau, president of that committee, M. de la Gerandiere, President of the Academy of Agriculture of Blois, and the Marquis de Saint Croix, were appointed to examine into the merits of M. Jauffret's invention.

These gentlemen report "that by a cheap wash or lye, the ingredients of which are to be found in all places, and which every cultivator can make on his own land, all sorts of herbaceous and ligneous substances, such as heather, furze, brambles, and even the living dogstooth, can be put into a state of rapid fermentation, and not only these substances, but even earth itself, be its nature what it may, can be converted into a valuable manure."

"That the manure produced by this new system is quite as valuable as the best horse litter; its effects are visible upon several successive crops; and it can be obtained with perfect facility at pleasure."

"That M. Jauffret supplied the committee with numerous and undeniable proofs of experiments, ranging over the department of the Bouches-du-Rhone, in which trials were made upon an extensive scale, on different kinds of soils, and on various seeds, plants, and trees. The success of those trials surpassed the most sanguine expectations, as has been attested, 1st, by the Academy of Aix, (annual public session 1835, at 38 and following pages of the report); 2d, by the circular of the prefect of the Bouches-du-Rhone; 3d, by 38 certificates* from most respectable inhabitants and farmers of that department, founded upon repeated experiments made by themselves; and 4th, by the declaration of well-informed proprietors of the department of Vaucluse, who for years have attentively watched the trials of the Jauffret manure."

"That in order to convince themselves more thoroughly on the subject, the committee wrote, unknown to M. Jauffret to some individuals who were most distinguished by their agricultural science, and who had given certificates to the inventor, and that their replies, which are annexed to the report, are of so satisfactory a nature, as to leave no doubt on the minds of the committee of the importance of the discovery."

"The committee enter into the following details of the process:

"By means of a cutting machine, the cost of which is about 600 francs (15*l*.) and which, after a careful examination, appeared well adapted for the purpose, three men and a horse can prepare 180 quintals, or 7,200 kilograms (about seven tons English) of manure per day, and the machine is easily erected. Ten quintals of straw produced 40 quintals of manure, this is effected either by the addition of the lye, or by the fermentation dilating the material operated on.

"The Jauffret process admits of greater economy as to labor, for the wooden cistern, and the ingredients of which the lye is made, may be carried to the field which is to be manured, and the compost prepared on the spot; and thus the carriage of the vegetable matter from the field to the yard, and back again from the yard to the field, is saved; the escape also of carbonic acid gas, one of the most valuable component parts of manure, which takes place during removal, is thus prevented. The inventor asserts, moreover, that he can raise the heat caused by the fermentation as high as 90 Reaumur (167 deg. Fahrenheit) his process has the additional advantage of destroying the germ of all noxious herbs, which might foul the land."

"That in considering this process the committee were struck with the advantage that might arise

from establishing manufactories, not only on large farms, but near towns and villages, to which every cultivator might bring his refuse vegetable matter to be converted into manure. The cutting machine might be worked either by horse, water, or steam power.

"The Jauffret process will be advantageous not only to large proprietors, (by whom an expense of 600 francs (15*l*.) will scarcely be felt,) but it will be more important and useful to small farmers, who can cut their weeds by hand, and prepare a quantity as perfect as any made by the machine.† As to the conversion of earth into manure, any one can make it without the help of the machine invented by M. Jauffret, and the manure made from earth by this new process, is not less valuable than the compost. Thus, those who have no cattle to feed may employ all their fodder for manure; others can render available weeds, briars, dogstooth, thistles, &c.; and those who have neither straw, fodder, nor weeds, can convert earth into manure, so that no discovery was ever more capable of easy or general application. The Jauffret process tends to supply agriculturists with new and powerful means of increasing their wealth, especially in the case of poor-land farmers, who usually find it difficult to obtain a sufficiency of manure."

*A printed copy of these certificates may be seen at Messrs. Thomas Gibbs & Co., Seedsmen and Nurserymen to the Hon. Board of Agriculture of England, and to the Board of Agriculture of Sweden, corner of Half-Moon street, Picadilly, London.

† Mons. Gauthier de Vaucluse, who is about to publish a new Atlas of Agriculture, says, (in print at Marseilles, 1832) "M. Jauffret, an intelligent farmer and acquaintance of mine, possesses exclusively the valuable power of converting, in less than a week, all vegetable substances whether dry or not, into dung of good quality, without spreading them as litter, or even submitting them to the tread of cattle. The means of a lye, with which he sprinkles the straw, herbs, leaves, plants of all kinds, even woody stalks of a finger's thickness, previously dividing them to a certain extent by a very ingenious operation. Such is the action of the lye, that forty-eight hours after the matters are heaped, their fermentation becomes, as it were, volcanic: volumes of smoke announce the decomposition at a considerable distance; and a poor and spent soil may, without delay, receive, in the form of an excellent manure, that which a week before could have done nothing towards rescuing it from a state of exhaustion."

Like all other interesting discoveries, this has been the subject of fierce attack; but experience has vindicated the inventor. Following the example of many landed proprietors, I determined upon making a trial of this important manure, and I declare it equal to that of well-fed horses. M. Jauffret asserts that he can at pleasure increase the dose, and even confer all properties required by the nature of the soil on which he uses it.

One single horse cart load of straw, or other dry material, produces more than two of good dung. The inventor charges 5 francs (2*s*. 6*d*.) for each cart load: probably to those who should effect the operation themselves, the expense would be diminished by one-half.

The advantages of such a process are incalculable.

† Mons. Jauffret states, the machine necessary for a small farmer is only a barrel and a pail, and which can be carried with ease from one part of the farm to the other. It is set to work in the open air, wherever materials happen to be; thus the fields that are so distant as to be seldom manured may by this manure be rendered highly productive. The mixture is made without fire, and every thing concurs to render it economical.

Another Fire in Fayette occurred on Tuesday afternoon the 20th inst. A large two story dwelling house, with all its furniture belonging to Mr. Bryant, was entirely consumed. The fire took from the chimney.

GOOD BYE TO THE ICE.—The ice went out of the Kennebec on the 4th. We have never known it to depart so quietly. There is no freshet, and the water is very low.

LEGAL.

BY MARCIAN SEAVEY.

The publisher has for some time past, been in the habit of preparing articles for the columns of the Farmer, and at the request of the editor, has placed his name at the head of this column that the responsibility of whatever he may write, may rest upon himself, and not upon the editor. In the preparation of the legal matter, he has recourse to one of the best law libraries in the County, with the advice and assistance of a gentleman of the highest legal attainments, when needed.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

When no overseers of the poor are chosen, the laws of this State require Selectmen of towns to perform that duty. We a short time since published a part of the duty of towns and overseers, with regard to the relief of the poor. We now give further directions with regard to the duty of overseers, in taking care of paupers. An act passed March 21, 1831, empowers the overseers of the poor from time to time, to bind out by deed, indenture or poll, as apprentices, to be instructed and employed in any lawful art, trade, or mystery, or as servants to be employed in any lawful work or labor any male or female children, whose parents become actually chargeable to their town, also whose parents shall be thought by said Overseers to be unable to maintain them, (whether they receive alms or are so chargeable or not,) to any citizen of this State, that is to say, male children till they come to the age of twenty-one years; and females till they come to the age of eighteen years, or are married; which binding shall be as valid and effectual in law, as if such children had been of the full age of twenty-one years, and had, by a like deed, bound themselves, or their parents had been consenting thereto: Provision to be made in such deed for the instructing of male children, so bound out, to read, write and cypher; and of females to read and write, and for such other instruction, benefit and allowance, either within or at the end of the term, as to the Overseers may seem fit and reasonable.

It also makes it their duty to inquire into the usage and treatment of such apprentices or servants so bound out, and if they find them to be ill treated, it is their duty to make complaint to the Court of Common Pleas, where this subject will be investigated, and the parties dealt with according to the merits of the case. It is also provided, that if the master complains to the said Court, of gross misbehaviour in the apprentice or servant, that he may be discharged from his apprenticeship after due notice to the selectmen.

It is also provided, That said Overseers shall have power to set to work, or bind out to service by deed as aforesaid, for a term not exceeding one whole year at a time, all such persons residing and lawfully settled in their respective towns, or who have no such settlement within this State, married or unmarried, upwards of twenty-one years of age, as are able of body, but have no visible means of support, who live idly and exercise no ordinary or daily lawful trade or business to get their living by; and also all persons who are liable by any law to be sent to the house of correction, upon such terms and conditions as they shall think proper. *Provided always,* That any person thinking him or herself aggrieved by the doings of said Overseers in the premises may apply, by complaint, to the Circuit Court of Common Pleas in the county where they are bound, or where the Overseers who bound them dwell, for relief; which Court, after due notice to the Overseers and to their masters, shall have power, after due hearing and examination, if they find

sufficient cause, to liberate and discharge the party complaining, from his or her master, and to release him or her from the care of the Overseers; otherwise to dismiss the complaint, and to give costs to either party or not, as the Court may think reasonable.

The following is a form of an indenture to bind out paupers under twenty-one years of age, by Overseers of the Poor.

This Indenture Witnesseth, That we, A B, C D, and E F, Overseers of the Poor of the town of —, in the county of —, by virtue of a law of this State in such cases made and provided, have put and placed, and by these presents do put, place and bind out, G H a poor child, the son of —, of said town of —, as an apprentice to J K, of —, to learn the art, trade, or mystery of —: the said G H, after the manner of an apprentice, to dwell with and serve the said J K, from the day of the date hereof, until the — day of —, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and —, at which time the said apprentice, if he shall be living, will be — years of age. And the said J K, on his part, doth hereby promise, covenant and agree to teach and instruct the said apprentice, or cause him to be taught and instructed, in the art, trade, or calling of a —, by the best way or means he can; and also to teach and instruct the said apprentice, or cause him to be taught and instructed, to read and write, &c. if the said apprentice be capable to learn; and shall also find and allow unto his said apprentice, meat, drink, washing, lodging and apparel and other necessities meet and convenient for such an apprentice during the term aforesaid; and at the expiration of the said term shall give to his said apprentice two suits of wearing apparel, one suitable for the Lord's day and the other suitable for working days.

In witness whereof, the parties aforesaid have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals the day of —, A. D.

C. C. (Seal.)
J. P. (Seal.)
E. R. (Seal.)
P. R. (Seal.)
Signed, sealed and delivered
in presence of
T. W.
R. S.

Indenture to bind out persons of age,

This indenture, made the — day of —, between C. C., J. P. and E. R. Overseers of the town of B, in the County of C., on one part, and D. S. of — in said county, (addition) of the other part, witnesseth:

That the said Overseers, by virtue of the statute in such cases made and provided, have bound out and do hereby bind out to the said D. S. for the term of —, (the term not to exceed one whole year,) from the date hereof, N. M. a married (or, unmarried) person, residing and lawfully settled in said town of B, (or, residing in said town of B, but having no settlement in this State) who is able of body but has no visible means of support, lives idly and exercises no ordinary or daily lawful trade or business to get his living by: during which term the said N. M. shall faithfully serve the said D. S. and obey all his lawful commands, not wasting any of his goods, nor doing any damage to him whatever. And the said D. S. on his part doth hereby covenant and engage to pay the said Overseers, for the services of the said N. M. for the term aforesaid, the sum of —, to be applied (reasonable charges deducted) by said Overseers to the support of the said N. M. (if he have a family, add or his family) at the discretion of said Overseers.

In witness whereof, the parties aforesaid have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals

the day and year above written.

C. C. (Seal.)
J. P. (Seal.)
E. R. (Seal.)
D. S. (Seal.)
Signed, sealed and delivered
in presence of
T. J.
J. A.

DUTY OF ASSESSORS.

We have been requested by a number of our subscribers, to give particular directions about making taxes. Therefore those who are well versed in the business, will excuse us if we say many things which are generally known and practiced. We presume that every man who is elected an Assessor of a town, is capable, and well qualified for the business, and we hope they will not consider us as presuming upon their knowledge, or ability, if we should be even more particular, than the nature of the case may seem to require.

The step preparatory to assessing a tax, is to get a correct valuation of the property on which the tax is to be assessed. The 12th Sec. of a law passed March 21, 1821, makes it the duty of the Assessors of each town and plantation, in convenient time before they proceed to make any assessment, to give seasonable warnings to the inhabitants by posting up notifications in some public place in said town or plantation, or notify the respective inhabitants in some other way, to make and bring in to them, the said Assessors, true and perfect lists of their polls, and of all their estates both real and personal (saving such estate as is or may by law, from time to time, be exempted from taxation,) which they were possessed of at such periods as the Legislature may from time to time order and direct.

If they suspect any falsehood in the list of polls or estates to them presented as aforesaid, then the said Assessors or either of them, shall require the person presenting such list, to make solemn oath that the same is true; which oath the Assessors, or either of them are hereby empowered to administer; and such list being exhibited on oath, shall be a rule for that person's proportion of the tax.

It is usual in County towns to prepare a book, of a sheet or two of paper, in such a manner that each kind of taxable property, can be entered in distinct columns, and for the Assessors on the first or second day of May, to call on each person and take a list of the taxable articles of which he is possessed and to meet at some convenient place, on a subsequent day to agree upon the value of the property thus taken.

As it is the duty of Assessors notwithstanding this, to give notice as aforesaid, it will be well for them to set the time and place, for persons to give in their valuation, on the same day and at the same place at which they meet to settle the valuation of property taken as aforesaid. Then if persons wish, they can appear and see what they are to be taxed for, and what value is placed upon their property, and if any mistake or disproportion has occurred, they can have it settled without further trouble. It is common in most towns for Assessors to value property at about one half or one third of what it usually sells for. This they consider to be the amount it would bring if it was put up at public sale for cash. The value thus set, should always bear an equal proportion to the intrinsic value of the same property; and the value of all kinds of property should bear an equal proportion to each other.

The following is given as a form of a notice to be posted up, agreeable to the requirements of the law aforesaid.

Notice is hereby given to the inhabitants of the town of — to bring in to the Assessors true and perfect lists of their taxable polls and estates, of which they are possessed on the 1st day of May,

1838. And that we will be in session at the —
— on the — day of May, from — to —
o'clock, for the purpose of receiving the same.
— April, — 1838. A B. } Assessors
C D. } of
E F. }

THE LAW REPORTER.

This is the title of an octavo, Semi Monthly publication of 16 pages, issued by Weeks, Jordan & Co. 121 Washington Street, Boston, at three dollars a year, payable on the receipt of the second number.

Although this work is more particularly intended for members of the profession of law, yet, it will be found very convenient for magistrates who do legal business, as it contains condensed reports of the most important cases, both in civil and criminal jurisdiction, with such points of practice and judicial interpretations, as may be deemed most useful, with a digest of the latest decisions.

We will receive subscriptions, and act as agents for this, and the other work, published by Weeks, Jordan & Co.

Education.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Comparative Merits of our New England System of Education.

(CONCLUDED.)

We should give this preference, for two reasons: first, Prussia requires of her teachers, better mental qualifications than New-England. Second, the morals of teachers, in the former country, are regarded with more scrupulousness than in the latter. Prussia pays greater attention to the cultivation of the heart.

Our system of primary instruction, although it has been justly extolled, is yet only in its infancy. It has its advantages, but it has also its defects.—It disseminates a general diffusion of knowledge among the people, it is true; but its real advantage does not consist in this merely. For if this were the case, Iceland, in her system of instruction, possesses all the advantages of New-England. On this island, it is a circumstance of rare occurrence, that a youth 9 or 10 years of age is found unable to read or write with ease. And it is no uncommon thing to hear children on this desolate island, who have never traveled but a few miles from their father's door, repeating passages of Latin and Greek; and all this knowledge is acquired in the domestic circle—around the kitchen fire.

In what, then, does the advantage of our system of education consist? We answer, it tends directly to sustain our Republican institutions. Under every form of government there always has been, and for a long time to come, there probably will be, different gradations of society. These gradations exist in our own country. In order to sustain our Republican institutions then, it is essential that between the classes of the community, there should be the utmost union of feeling. Now what could better promote this harmonious object, than the circumstance, that the children of all classes, are associated together in their early years of instruction, passed in our primary schools? Here, the children of the rich and poor, of the Legislator and peasant, meet together, and are instructed in the elementary branches of education. The child of the humblest citizen, feels that his right to the advantages of these schools, is equal to the right of any other member of the school, of however wealthy or honorable parentage. There is an equality of feeling with respect to right, fostered in those schools, which probably would not be cherished by any other system of education.

Again, to sustain our Republican institutions

and form of government, a moral feeling must exist in the community. Republican laws are supposed to be based on the principles of right. Now unless there is in the community a consciousness of right, to which these laws may be addressed, their enactment is evidently to no purpose. This moral sense of right and wrong, has ever been fostered in the schools of New-England. No doubt, cases have often occurred, where moral culture has been too much, if not wholly neglected. Still, in our New-England system of instruction, as a general thing, moral and mental training have been most happily combined. The sons of the Pilgrims have seemed to understand, that true freedom grows on no other soil, than that of pure morality.

With all the advantages, however, of our New-England method of instruction, as has already been intimated, it has its defects. There never has been, as yet, a sufficient effort made to raise the mental and moral standard of qualifications among teachers.

Like Prussia, we need our Teachers' Seminaries.—Like her, we need a class of the community trained for the work of teaching—whose qualifications for their employment have been decided upon, not by one or two individuals, who go thro' the routine of a farce examination, but by men who have had the care of their mental training, and know what their true qualifications are.

Many of my readers can probably recollect, that the time has been, when an individual, with a very limited education, possessing a tolerable share of courage, and disposed to manifest a little of the heroic with the rod and ferule, has acquired almost immortal renown, as a teacher of our common schools. Of such a school-master it might perhaps be said, he has acquired his celebrity somewhat in the same manner as John James Hauberle, a teacher of a small Suabian town in Germany.

This man according to the account given of him was engaged in school teaching 51 years and 7 months—during which time, "he gave to the youth entrusted to his charge, 911,517 blows with a stick—24,010 strokes with a rod—20,989 ferulings—136,515 blows with the hand—10,235 slaps on the chops—7,095 boxes on the ears—1,115,800 raps on the head—777 times he made boys kneel upon peas—and 613 times upon a three-cornered piece of wood.—Of the blows with a stick, 800,000 were for not learning Latin vocabularies. Of the strokes with a rod 7,600 were for not learning passages in the Bible and hymns." This may perhaps be the language of exaggeration—still, it probably reminds many of my readers, of the compulsory course which former instructors have taken, even in New-England. And here the question naturally arises, why is it that teachers have been so deficient in qualifications heretofore, and have so essentially erred in their methods of government? We reply, our school-masters have not been trained for their employment. There have been no real standard qualifications required of instructors. They have not had the advantages of Teachers' Seminaries, in which, not only the necessary branches of science are taught, but also, the true principles of human nature—a knowledge of which is essential to guide any teacher in the art of government. To raise the standard of education, to a proper height, New-England has yet to awake. We would neither underrate our system of education, nor would we overrate it. The system is a good one; but it can be made better, by raising the standard qualifications of teachers. If then, in Prussia, under an absolute monarchy, Teachers' Seminaries can be supported in sufficient numbers to supply a population of 13,000,000 with well trained, competent instructors, certainly New-England, which has been foremost in the great enterprises of the day,

which is the most favored, education excepted, of any section of the globe—and which has been reported to have given birth to the Free school system—can supply her population with well qualified teachers. We hope she will do it!

A TEACHER.

DR. JACKSON'S LECTURES—NO. V.

He began by saying that this lecture would chiefly be occupied on the subject of coal, its origin, nature, chemical composition and distribution. What is coal? It is mainly carbon. Pure carbon is that substance which is called diamond. (Dr. J. here exhibited models of several royal diamonds in the crowns of Europe. A single diamond in the crown of France was worth \$5,000,000.) Carbonic acid gas is known by chemistry to be composed of carbon and oxygen gas. Now if you burn the diamond in oxygen gas, carbonic acid gas is formed, which proves that the diamond is pure carbon. Carbon can scarcely be burned by the blowpipe, owing to its density and strong cohesive power—the chemical affinity it has for oxygen is not sufficient to overcome its cohesion. The next shape in which we find carbon, is what is called graphite, from the Greek word "grapho" to write. This substance is used for pencils, and is called blacklead, but there is no lead in it. It is pure carbon with a little iron, which is a mere accidental and foreign ingredient, and is never taken into account in its analysis. It is much used in the arts and all occupations. Next we find carbon under the name of anthracite or hard coal; it is nearly pure carbon, contains a little foreign matter, sometimes one or two per cent., and variable quantities of water from four to eleven per cent. It is owing to the presence of water that this kind of coal burns with a blaze, when it is first put on the fire. The carbon is consumed entirely in the process of combustion, and only the foreign matter is left as cinders or ashes.—The heat produced by the burning of coal arises from the condensation of the air, the transformation of oxygen gas into carbonic acid, which is more dense than the oxygen.

Bituminous coal contains bitumen, a resinous substance, and can always be distinguished from the other kind by its smoke. The amount of bitumen it contains varies from 50 to 60 per cent., generally, but found at Grand Lake, N. B. has only 45 per cent. The ashes of bituminous coal prove on analysis to be composed of silex, alumina, and oxide of iron, the carbon being consumed.

There is still another kind found in this State, which is called recent bituminous coal. It is obtained from the peat bogs in Limerick, contains 72 per cent. of bitumen, and the rest carbon. This coal exists from three to seven feet from the surface of the earth, and proves to be the bark of fir trees. It was probably formed by chemical action, aided by the balsam of the bark, and transforming the ligneous fibre into coal. This coal is a new discovery, and helps to untie the gordian knot and explain the mystery that has so long hung over the formation of this substance.

Some anthracite coal is found in Maine, at Vinalhaven, in slate rock, which has evidently undergone igneous fusion, by the bursting of a trap through its midst, and the coal escaped, and was not destroyed by the heat. It is extraordinary to find coal in rocks that have been exposed to heat and so low in the old transition formation. This coal was formed from marine plants, and does not belong to the regular series. It is not and ought not to be expected to be profitable to mine such coal for practical purposes.

The word coal is derived from the German, and although this substance is so common to us, yet it is but recently that it was used by man for fuel. In 1239, Henry 3d granted a charter to the first Company that ever associated to work coal, and afterwards the whole business was forbidden in the kingdom, as dangerous to the lives of the subjects. It was first exported to France in 1325, and now the commerce of England in coal and iron constitutes her most productive source of wealth and power. When Julius Caesar first visited that country, it was covered with dense forests, and inhabited by a race of men that the Romans called barbarians. No mines were wrought, no coal was wanted. But now the forests have disappeared,

and the immense treasures discovered in their beds of coal, supply with fuel a vast and overflowing population, and their ships, laden with this commodity, whiten every sea.

What is the origin of coal? Above and below and in contact with it, are found vegetables such as ferns, palms &c.; and if we examine the coal itself we shall perceive distinct remains of animal fibres. There are no plants now in existence analogous to those found near the coal, and the sap vessels in the coal, when viewed with a magnifier, are precisely like those of the contiguous plants. From all these facts then, there can be no reasonable doubt but what coal is of vegetable origin. This point is as well established in respect to mineral coal, as it is in respect to charcoal.—It is generally believed that the vegetables, of which coal is formed, accumulated gradually, till they were piled to an enormous height, and that it required years and years for their conversion to coal. After one such layer was deposited and buried, plants again sprung up, flourished, and were overwhelmed to form another layer or field of coal.

By an inspection of coal fossils, some idea can be acquired of the state of the globe at the time of their growth. These fossil plants have been collected, arranged and classified, and drawings have been taken and published. Ferns now growing in the West Indies are large and luxuriant trees, while those of colder climates, are mere stunted shrubs. It is a legitimate inference, then, that tropical climates are the native and proper regions for the production of ferns. But in the coal beds in the northern or temperate climates are found fossil ferns precisely corresponding with those now peculiar to the tropical regions. In Nova Scotia fossil palm trees are found, such as now grow in New Holland. In Scotland, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts, the same fact exists. How came they there? Were they transported? That solution is plausible, but do they look as if they had been washed thousands of miles by a current of water? No:—for their leaves are as perfect as in any naturalist's herbarium; not a branch is broken, not a fragment is missing. Did they then grow on the spot where they are now found imbedded in coal? There is no reason to doubt it. The leaves of the palm for instance, are discovered lying thick around the stump of the palm: are there then any causes now existing which could make this temperate climate a tropical one? It may be said the internal heat of the globe might effect it. But if this cause could produce such a change in the temperature of the northern regions, it must at the same time have afforded as much heat at the equator, which added to the scorching rays of the sun there, would make the equatorial regions intolerably hot.—Hence the inference is, that the internal heat of the globe could not have produced that change. But the theory that the earth has changed its axis, will account satisfactorily for all the phenomena. Geology, however, attaches little importance to theory, it is a mere chain to link together facts,—the string, on which the beads are strung.

But in what rocks are coal beds found? It will be recollected that there are no vegetable remains discovered in primary rocks, but in the bottom of the secondary are some imperfect sea weeds, and in the top of the same, land plants and trees. Hence beds of coal must be found in greywacke, sandstone, and limestone. The coal strata are of various thickness, from one foot to seven, and perhaps sometimes more. Geological principles should always be followed in the search for coal, that profitless expenditures may be avoided. Anthracite coal is found in the regular transition series imbedded in greywacke or slate. It is difficult to find coal in this State, because, if there be any, it is in the North East part, and particularly on the public lands, which are covered by dense forests, and a deep loamy soil, so that it would be necessary to dig several feet, before reaching the coal beds. But it is not the duty of the Geologist to find the coal, only to point out how and where it can and cannot exist. Bituminous coal is found in small quantities on the St. Croix river, in New Brunswick; it rests on the transition series, and is full of marine plants and shells. It is possible that the same field may extend to Perry and Pembroke, but not probable. But coal would be of no value to this State under existing circumstances, if it were found on the wild lands. There are no means of communication between that

and other parts of the State, and Pennsylvania coal can be procured in exchange for granite much cheaper than from our own limits.

In working coal mines, great difficulties have been experienced from the explosion of the gas by means of the lamps that are carried in for lights. It has sometimes happened that 50 or 100 persons have been hurled to eternity in an instant, or suffered to die by the inspiration of carbonic acid gas, in a single mine. So alarming had this evil become, in the extensive and numerous mines of England, that the Government deemed it their duty to take some measures to put a stop to it, if possible. For this purpose application was made to Sir H. Davy, a distinguished chemist, who discovered an infallible remedy in what is called a "safety lamp." In his chemical experiments he had noticed that an explosion could be produced through very small tubes, and catching at that idea, he first thought of constructing a lamp of small tubes, but by actual trial he found flame would not be communicated through the small holes of wire gauze, and therefore he selected this as the screen between life and death. The simple principle, on which this wonderful invention is based, is, that the temperature of flame is equal or above that of metal at white heat, and the current of air that is constantly passing round this wire gauze, prevented it from rising to a white heat. On the outside of this lamp is a filler, by which it is supplied with oil, and a wire passing up through the bottom by which the wick is raised at pleasure, both in order that the wire gauze need never be taken from the lamp. Carburetted hydrogen gas and air are the ingredients of this explosive compound, and the mixture that detonates most loudly and explodes most easily, is seven or eight proportions of air to one of gas. This safety lamp has never failed of its object. Sometimes, when the gas is in a very explosive state, the wick is extinguished for the time being, and the whole case of wire gauze is filled with a flame, which serves instead of the light of the wick and intimates to the miners that it is time to retreat, lest the gauze should be oxidated or burnt off, and an explosion produced. In these coal mines, there are galleries miles in length, and hundreds of feet in height, completely filled with gas, and supplied with air by the numerous shafts that communicate with the surface of the earth. One single lamp is sufficient to explode this whole mass, and make the earth tremble for miles around, like the throes of an infant earthquake.

Summary.

We publish to day a list of the officers of the Penobscot County Agricultural Society, and forward a copy of our paper to each which he will please to receive as notice of his election. S.

At an adjourned meeting of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society, holden at the Masonic Hall in Winthrop, February 28, 1838—

Joseph H. Underwood, was chosen President.
G. A. Benson, Vice President.
Peleg Benson, Jr., Treasurer.
Samuel Wood, Jr., Collector.
Ezekiel Holmes, Corresponding Secretary,
Samuel Webb, Recording Secretary.

Nathan Foster, } Trustees.
Elijah Wood, }
Oakes Howard, }

Dexter Baldwin, General Agent.

Voted, That the next Cattle Show and Fair be held in the usual place.

Voted, That the Trustees be directed to procure fifteen volumes of the Maine Farmer, to be offered in premiums,—five volumes to each of the Standing Committees.

Voted, That the Secretary give notice in the Maine Farmer,—calling upon members in arrears for assessments, to pay the same without delay.

Voted, That the following persons compose the Standing Committees the ensuing year.

John Kezer, }
Isaac Wadsworth, } Com. on Agriculture.
John E. Snell, }
Joseph A. Metcalf, }
Joseph W. Hains, } Com. on Stock.
Levi Page, Jr., }

Samuel Benjamin, }
Pliny Harris, } Com. on Manufactures.
Horace Parlin, }
Oren Shaw, }
James Page, } Com. of Arrangements.
Wadsworth Foster, }

Voted, That the following Persons be admitted members of this Society, viz: John H. Hussey, Levi Page, Jr., Samuel Cummings; and Salmon Rockwood, of Augusta; Peter M. Stackpole, and John D. Lung, of Vassalboro'; Ezra Briggs, Jr., of Hallowell; Cyrus Bishop, of Winthrop.

Voted to adjourn.

SAMUEL WEBB, Recording Sec'y.

Officers of the Penobscot Ag. Society.

The following list of Officers of the Penobscot County Agricultural Society was furnished by Mr. Wm. Edwin Atwood, of Levant.

JOSEPH KELSEY, President, Guilford.

J. C. Brown, Rec. Sec'y. Glenburn.

Chandler Eastman, }
Geo. Waugh, } Vice Presidents.
Edmond Pillsbury, }

A. Sanborn, Treasurer.

Marcian Seavey, Cor. Sec'y.

Jos. Tilton, }
Levi Cutler, } Trustees.
L. P. Burrell, }

Henry Call, } Com. on Tools
Lysander Cutler, } and
Sam'l. Brown, } Implements of Husbandry.

Wm. Eddy, }
Nath'l. Burrell, Jr. } Com. on Stock.
E. R. Favour, }

Doct. J. Barstow, } Com. on Crops,
Daniel Chase, } Trees,
Ora Oakman, } and Shrubs.

E. B. Stackpole, Collector.

Chandler Eastman, }
Daniel Crowell, }
Mark Fisher, } Com. on Premiums.
Nath'l. Burrell, Jr. }
Edmond Pillsbury, }

John Dunning, }
John Walker, }
Isaac Chace, } Com. to prepare an Ad-
Geo. A. Thatcher, } dress to be delivered
Robert Page, } at the next Cattle Show.

Postmasters Appointed.—Edward Emerson, N. Boothbay, Lincoln Co. David W. Wilson, Machias, Washington Co. Harrison G. B. Barrows, Wilson, Somerset Co. A new Post Office has been established at South Albion, Kennebec Co., and Thomas Bunnell, appointed Post Master—also at Week's Mills, Kennebec Co.—Charles A. Russell, Post Master.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR.

With the advice and consent of Council.

Henry W. Paine, Hallowell, County Attorney for the County of Kennebec.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Somerset.—Wm. Allen, Jr. Norridgewock, Chairman, Hiram Tuttle, Canaan, in place of Ephraim Packard.

Penobscot.—Samuel Butman, Dixmont, Chairman, Elijah Webster, Orono, Wm. C. Hamlin, Howland.

Waldo.—Isaac Abbot, Jackson, Chairman, Wm. Cunningham, Montville, in place of Wm. Ross.

Cumberland.—John McKean, Brunswick, Chairman, Solomon Andrews, Bridgton, Thos. B. Little, Minot.

Lincoln.—Barnard C. Bailey, Bath, Chairman, Samuel T. Hinds, Bremen, in place of Ambrose Lermond.

Hancock.—Addison Dodge, Bluehill, in place of P. Leach, Jr., Mark R. Saunders, Orono, in place of W. Hinks.

Washington.—Ichabod Bucknam, Columbia, in place of A. Wakefield, Richard V. Hayden, Rockwood, in place of John Bridges, Jr.

Oxford.—David Noyes, Norway, Chairman, Timothy Gibson, Brownfield, Erastus Poole, Dover.

WHEAT raised in Somerset County on which a Bounty has been paid by the State.

	1837, Census.	1837, Census.	1837, Census.
Abbot,	2,670	\$202.89	649
Anson,	12,713	906.79	1894
Athens,	6,655	499.17	1424
Avon,	4,560	338.41	767
Brighton,	2,548	192.02	701
Cambridge,	5,203	384.18	798
Chandler,	795	60.50	261
Chandlerville,	5,080	375.20	1053
Clinton,	5,444	429.08	1347
Cornville,	6,642	486.44	1056
Concord,	3,120	223.23	524
Cambridge,	2,890	211.81	431
Chandlerville,	1,542	118.91	296
Clintonville,	150	13.80	39
Emden,	6,400	466.44	1048
Freeman,	6,485	455.52	805
Fairfield,	11,530	833.94	2203
Greenfield,	211	15.89	132
Harland,	4,836	354.16	890
Harmony,	6,836	498.96	1048
Industry,	6,077	447.85	1014
Kingsbury,	1,411	103.09	199
Kingfield,	4,275	307.96	614
Lexington,	2,346	103.16	457
Madison,	10,881	776.13	1608
Mercer,	6,868	518.33	1525
Mayfield,	658	48.28	112
Moscow,	4,273	309.65	477
Monson,	2,267	173.65	565
New Portland,	10,451	747.24	1476
New Vinyard,	7,063	503.00	870
Norridgewock,	10,298	749.12	1955
Palmyra,	8,612	638.47	1328
Parkman,	6,151	470.66	1125
Phillips,	6,238	455.92	1283
Pittsfield,	4,869	371.77	836
Ripley,	3,511	262.07	555
Shirley,	344	29.44	213
Solon,	6,567	470.82	1129
St. Albans,	10,293	756.69	1393
Starks,	7,614	567.24	1424
Strong,	8,337	599.85	1091
Salem,	4,216	297.54	496
Skowhegan,	5,592	417.13	1433
Wellington,	4,290	325.44	721
Wilson,	98	8.37	91
East Pond Pl.	2,062	156.52	353
Unincorporated Places			1254
	241,947	\$17,682.68	42,963

Although the County of Somerset raised the most wheat, yet there is no town in that County that comes up to several towns in the County of Penobscot, computing the number of bushels to each inhabitant in the town. We find that the town of Solon produced NINE bushels and three quarts to each inhabitant. Moscow, 8 bushels and 20 quarts. New Vinyard, 8 bushels and 3 quarts. Freeman, 8 bushels. Strong, 7 bushels and 20 quarts. St. Albans, 7 bushels and 12 quarts. Kingsbury, 7 bushels. New Portland, 7 bushels. And Anson, Avon, Brighton, Cornville, Cambridge, Emden, Harmony, Kingfield, Madison, Palmyra and Ripley, over six bushels—some of them nearly seven. And Concord, Industry, Solon, Wellington and East Pond Plantation, nearly six. We give the number of inhabitants to each town that persons who wish may cast for themselves. In order to do this, we are under the necessity of omitting the fractional parts of a bushel that occurred in several towns, which will not materially alter the result.—S.

CONGRESSIONAL.

IN SENATE—FRIDAY, March 30, 1838.—Mr. Wright, from the Committee on finance, reported a bill requiring that, when pensions shall not be paid by the agents in six months after becoming due, the money shall be returned to the Treasury, from which they only shall then be paid. Also, the General Appropriation Bill for 1838, with an amendment, authorizing the President and Postmaster General to transfer the funds of the

Post Office Department from one branch of the service to another.

The following bills were severally read a third time and passed:

To revive and continue in force the act granting pensions to persons disabled by wounds in the Revolutionary war.

For the construction of certain roads in Wisconsin.

To give effect to the eighth article of the treaty of 1819 with Spain.

Challenges to Duels.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to prohibit the giving or accepting of a challenge within the District of Columbia, to fight a duel, and for the punishment thereof.

Mr. Prentiss argued that the criminality of taking the preliminary steps in this District for a duel to be consummated out of the District, would be materially aggravated by the intention in so doing to evade the law of the District.

Mr. Linn, admitting all the evils of dueling, and the importance of suppressing it as far as possible, yet argued the difficulty of having laws against duelling duly executed.

Mr. Clayton proposed to amend the bill by making the highest penalty confinement in the penitentiary for a term not exceeding two years, a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars, and a disability forever afterwards to hold any office of honor or profit under the United States.

Mr. Clayton, in support of this amendment, stated that the practice of dueling was at one time so prevalent in Delaware as to be almost regarded as an amusement; that a law was passed of the same import with his amendment, since which time the practice has been wholly discontinued.

Mr. Grundy argued that although there would be particular exceptions, the severity of law would influence, as he believed, the general mass, so as to suppress the practice to a greater or less extent; and he adduced some instances in support of it.

The subject being still up, the Senate, after an Executive session, adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The Army appropriation bill was read a third time and passed.

The Navy appropriation bill was discussed at much length, chiefly in relation to the Exploring Expedition. Mr. Wise gave notice that on Monday he should move that said Expedition be converted into a Coast Squadron.

The Cumberland Road bill was further discussed. One or two amendments were adopted, after which the bill was laid aside till another day.

Our subscribers at Gardiner can have their papers sent to the store of Mr. Charles Tarbel free of postage. If they prefer this arrangement, they will give notice to Mr. T. accordingly.

MARRIED.

At Hickory Hill, Parish of Caddo, La., on the 22d February, Mr. Charles A. Sewall, merchant of Shreveport, and formerly of this town, to Amelia M., daughter of David Gilmar, Esq., formerly of Montgomery, Ala.

In Augusta, on Sunday last, at the Methodist Chapel, by the Rev. Mr. Fuller, Mr. David L. Gupta to Miss Abigail A., daughter of Mr. Stephen Winslow.

In Readfield, by Daniel Craig Esq. Mr. John Perkins of Readfield, to Miss Sarah Mernsey of Augusta.

In Windsor, by Charles A. Russ, Esq. Mr. Walter Stewart of China, to Miss Elizabeth Taylor.

DIED.

In Augusta, Capt. Steward Porter of Portland, aged about 60.

In Augusta, Lake Queeny an Irishman; He was killed by the caving of the earth while at work in the canal connected with the Dam. He was a worthy and industrious man.

In Farmington on the 12 ult. John Church in his 85th year.

In Gardiner, of consumption, March 15th, Benjamin Austin, son of Mr. Edward Austin formerly of York aged 20 years and 8 months.

In Leeds, Feb. 11th, Prince Bailey, a colored man aged 87, a revolutionary soldier.

In Winthrop, on the 18th ult. Miss Clarissa Marrow, aged 43.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, Mar. 31, 1838.

At market 300 Beef Cattle, 200 Sheep and 780 Swine.

Prices.—Beef Cattle—Last week's prices were fully supported, and we quote the same: extra \$7; first quality 6 50 a 6 75 second quality \$6 a 6 25 third quality \$5 a 5 75.

Sheep—Several lots were sold, but we could not obtain the prices: a few Cosset Wethers at 6 50.

Swine—Several lots were taken to peddle at 7 1-4 a 7 1-2 for sows, and 8 1-4 a 8 1-2c for barrows: at retail 9c for Sows and 10c for Barrows.

Arrangements of the Kennebec and Boston Steam Navigation Company, for 1838.

The Superior Steam Packet NEW ENGLAND, NATHANIEL KIMBALL, MASTER, will leave Gardiner every Monday and Thursday, at 3 o'clock P. M. and Bath at 6 o'clock P. M. for Boston.

Leave Lewis' wharf Boston every Wednesday and Saturday at 7 o'clock P. M. for Bath and Gardiner.

Carriages will be in readiness to take passengers to and from, Hallowell, Augusta, Waterville and Bangor on the arrival of the Boat and on the days of her sailing. Hack fare from Augusta 37 1-2 cts. Hallowell 25 cents.

FARE.

From Gardiner to Boston, \$4.00 } AND FOUND.
Bath " " 3.50 }
Deck Passengers 3.00

During the past winter, the New England has been thoroughly overhauled and repaired, and the proprietors have spared neither pains nor expense to render her in all respects worthy of public confidence. That she is the fastest boat on the eastern coast is now universally admitted, and her superiority as a safe and comfortable sea boat has been fully proved.

AGENTS.

J. REED, Augusta.
C. G. BACHELDER, Hallowell.
J. J. JEROME, Bangor.
L. H. GREEN, Gardiner.
M. W. GREEN, Boston.
Gardiner, April, 1838.

34

Machine Cards and Filleting.

T. B. MERRICK keeps constantly on hand a large supply of Machine Cards and Filleting, from one of the best Factories in New-England, which will be sold on reasonable terms.

Also Card Clensers, Comb Plate, Emery and Card Tacks.

April 6.

Field Seeds.

Golden Straw wheat; Black Sea Wheat; Malaga wheat; Holton wheat;—Bald Barley; Two Rowed Barley;—Dutton Corn; Early Canada do; White Canada do;—Skinless Oats;—Marrowfat Peas.

For sale by

R. G. LINCOLN.

April, 5, 1838.

34



FRUIT TREES, ORNAMENTAL TREES, MORUS MULTICAULIS.

For sale by the Subscriber. The varieties, particularly the Pears and the Plums, were never before so fine,—the assortment so complete.—Also of Apples, Peaches, Cherries, Grape Vines—a superior assortment of finest kinds; and of all other hardy fruits.

20,000 Morus Multicaulis or Chinese Mulberry Trees can still be furnished at the customary prices, if applied for early. This being all that now remain unsold.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Roses, and Herbaceous plants, of the most beautiful, hardy kinds.—Splendid Paeonies, and Double Dahlias.

4,000 Cockspur Thorns; 10,000 Buckthorns—for Hedges.

800 Lancashire Gooseberries, of various colors and fine kinds.

Harrison's Double Yellow Rose, new and hardy; color fine—it never fails to bloom profusely.

Trees packed in the most perfect manner for all distant places, and shipped or sent from Boston to wherever ordered.

Transportation to the City is without charge. Address by Mail, Post paid.—Catalogues will be sent gratis to all who apply.

51—t. June. WILLIAM KENRICK.
Nursery, Nonantum Hill, Newton, Jan. 25, 1838.

POETRY.

From the New-England Farmer.

"TIS DONE BY DINT OF DIGGING."

How countless the number of modern inventions
For saving of labor, and other pretensions!
And yet we can no more exist without toil,
Than a lamp can keep burning without any oil.
Let us exercise all our mechanical skill;
Contrive new machines, and new theories who will,
Yet digging, hard digging, is what brings to pass
Our thrift, and the growth of our grain and our grass.

'T is the "sweat of the brow" that provides for our
good;

It warms us with clothing,—it fills us with food;
It pays for our pleasures,—supports us in ease,
In gay, or in sober life,—just as we please.
Let genius then study and scheme what it can,
Still delving and digging's entail'd upon man;
And, were I to give now his true definition,
I'd say, man's a digger without intermission.

Go now, Mr. Farmer, and boast of your stock,
Your heeves and merinos, and all your fat flock,
Your famous smart gelding, without any flaw,
And tell too how Gallant and Golding can draw,
How Fillpail and Brindle and Bughorn you bought
Of Hilltop, the grazer, and almost for naught!
Yet digging, hard digging, is what above all,
Produced these fine fatlings, the pride of your stall.

We hard-toling husbandmen, workies and diggers,
Who never pretend to "cut any great figures,"
This truth from experience know very well,
"Who'd eat of an oyster must first break the shell."
We stick to our calling;—our home's in the fields;
We're never ashamed to put shoulder to wheels;
And, if e'er annoyed by a loafer or prig,
We say,—“Mr. Slyboots, or Lounger,—go, dig.”

So we dig for new systems;—we dig for new plans;
For the mind is a digger, as well as the hands.
Few dig for their pleasure; more dig for their health;
But the digger of diggers, he digs all for wealth!
And thus we keep digging, and follow the trade,
Till the grave-digger digs us a place to be laid;
And then, not till then, both our digging and life
Come to a finale;—and so ends the strife.

JOHN HEYDIGGER.

PEACE.

“Beat your swords into ploughshares.”

The following communication has been received.
We propose to devote a column to this subject to
those who feel disposed to write upon it. We shall
not ourselves, endorse for the opinions of those who
may write for or against the principles of the advo-
cates of nonresistance, but allow each one to have
his turn.

For the Maine Farmer.

MR. HOLMES. I have recently subscribed for
the *Maine Farmer*, and am much gratified with the
Nos. I have received. But there is one subject of
vital importance to “the people,” which I had hoped
to have seen introduced into its columns before now.
I refer to the subject of *Peace*.

That hope was excited by hearing that our vener-
able friend Philanthropos had been repeatedly re-
quested to write for the *Farmer*, on that subject—
And I exceedingly regret, that his other engage-
ments have hitherto prevented his compliance.

Contributions on that subject from such a source,
I think would be a most valuable acquisition to your
paper, which already stands deservedly high in the
estimation of the public. I shall not have the pre-
sumption to offer my services, as a substitute for
his, though requested so to do; but I am extremely
desirous that such a medium as your paper affords,
for communicating with the most intelligent portion
of the yeomanry of Maine, should be made to con-
tribute its influence, in some way, to aid the *cause*
of *Peace*; a cause in which the present and future
generations of men, are so deeply interested.

And I doubt not there are those among your sub-
scribers, who are abundantly qualified to pour such
a flood of light on this subject, as would do much
towards dissipating the early prejudices, and fatal
delusions, with which the God of war has so long

bound the nations to his bloody car. For nearly
6,000 years the earth has been drenched with hu-
man gore, shed in mutual slaughter; and although
it was predicted, that, during the Messiah's reign,
all weapons of war would be converted into imple-
ments of husbandry, and the nations of the earth
cease to destroy each other; and although the
Heavenly hosts at the Saviour's advent, rejoiced at
the prospect, not only of seeing man reconciled to
his Maker, but of seeing *peace* restored on earth;
yet how slow have mankind been to learn that those
predictions are to be fulfilled; that great change to
be accomplished by means of human instrumentality;
and that every individual who neglects to do
what he can to assist in bringing about that happy
change, is in a measure accountable for the contin-
uance of the evil. It is truly encouraging to know,
that happy period is approaching, a revolution is
going on in public opinion, silently, but rapidly in
proportion to the means used. And it is important
that light should be thrown into all such channels of
communication, that the great mass of our popula-
tion may see the monster in all his deformity; for

“War is a game, which, were their subjects wise,
Kings wouldn't play at.”

I therefore hope Mr. Editor, that you, or Philan-
thropos, or some one of your able correspondents,
will without delay, commence a series of Essays on
this subject, which it is believed would not detract
at all from the character of the *Farmer*, as an Ag-
ricultural paper, and at the same time would render
essential aid to a great and glorious cause.

Vassalborough.

E. F.

Fresh Garden Seeds

At Lincoln's Agricultural Seed Store.

THE Subscriber takes pleasure in announcing
to the public generally, and to his friends and
customers in particular, that he has greatly enlarg-
ed his stock of *Agricultural, Garden, and Flower*
Seeds, which has been selected with much care from
the most experienced Growers of seeds in the States
of Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New
York; that many rare and valuable new varieties
have been added, which makes his assortment more
extensive than can be found in any other seed store
in the State, and that he is frequently corresponding
with Messrs. Hovey, Boston, Mr. Belden, Connect-
icut, and Messrs. Princes of Flushing near New
York, which enables him to procure at short notice
any variety or quantity of seeds which he may not
have. They are put up as usual in papers with short
printed directions, for their culture and use, mask-
ed 6 1-4 cents, and 12 1-2 cents, and packed in box-
es containing from \$5 to \$10 worth. 33 1-3 per
cent. discount from the marks will be made to those
who wish to buy to sell again with the privilege of
returning the unsold seeds; and 40 per cent. dis-
count will be made to all those who will pay for the
whole amount of seeds received on or before the
first day of Sept. next.

All orders by mail or otherwise, promptly attend-
ed to.

R. G. LINCOLN.

Hallowell, March 30, 1838.

33c

ASSIGNEES NOTICE.

To whom it may Concern—Notice is hereby given
that Abner M. Stinson of Richmond, has as-
signed to us the subscribers, all his estate, real, per-
sonal and mixed, including all demands of every de-
scription, in trust for the benefit of his Creditors,
by deed of assignment, Executed and delivered the
10th day of March, A. D. 1838.—Said deed of as-
signment is deposited with Samuel Dinslow, and
kept at his dwelling house in Richmond, where any
and all the creditors of the said Stinson are hereby
notified to call and become parties thereto, accord-
ing to the provisions of the statute in such case
made and provided.

SAMUEL DINSLOW, } Assignees.
JAMES W. GRANT, }
Richmond, March 10, 1838. 3w-6-pd.

BARLEY.

The subscriber has for sale a few hundred bush-
els of Barley, of good quality for seed.

NATH'L. LOVERING, Jr.

Augusta, Feb. 20, 1838.

5w3

GARDEN & AGRICULTURAL SEEDS.
HOVEY & Co.,
Seedsmen,

No. 9, MERCHANTS' ROW—BOSTON.
HAVE now on hand and for sale at their Seed
Store a large and extensive assortment of
GARDEN, FIELD, GRASS & FLOWER SEEDS
of the growth of 1837,—at wholesale or retail, war-
ranted of the best quality.

Grass and Field Seeds of every description, viz:
Herds Grass, Red Top, Northern and Southern Clo-
ver, White Clover, Lucerne, Orchard, Rye and Dew
Grass, Millet, &c. &c. Spring and Winter Wheat,
Barley, Rye, Buckwheat, Indian Wheat, Mangold
Wurtzel, Ruta Baga, Sugar Beet, Honey Locust,
White Mulberry, Early and Late Potatoes for seed,
Early Dutton, Phinney and other fine and celebra-
ted varieties of Seed Corn, &c. &c.

Vegetable Seeds comprising one of the best as-
sortments to be found in New-England. It would
be impossible to enumerate the varieties in an ad-
vertisement. Every new and superior kind is an-
nually added to our stock.

Flower Seeds. An assortment exceeding four
HUNDRED varieties, embracing all the newest and
most rare and choice kinds in cultivation; reared
principally by ourselves at our garden near Boston,
and warranted true to their names. Among the
number are assortments of double German Asters,
Lennices, Balsams, &c. &c.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees: Grape Vines,
Gooseberries, Currants, &c. Asparagus and Rha-
barb roots of the best kinds. A superb collection
of Double DAHLIAS. Greenhouse plants, Hardy
flowering Shrubs, Bulbous flower roots, &c. Books
on Agriculture, Horticulture and Botany. Garden
Tools and every thing supplied for the Garden.

Dealers and others furnished on accommo-
dating terms with GARDEN SEEDS by the pound,
bushel or ounce; also in BOXES, containing every
variety wanted, put up in papers ready for retailing,
each kind labelled with the name and particulars of
cultivation. A liberal discount made from retail
prices.

Having for a long period been engaged in rais-
ing seeds and cultivating plants of all kinds, we
feel assured that we can supply our customers with
articles of genuine quality and true to the kinds or-
dered. In the selection of Wheat, Corn and other
agricultural seeds, we give the greatest attention.

Orders directed to HOVEY & Co., 9, Merchants'
Row—Boston, will meet with immediate attention,
and be faithfully executed. HOVEY & Co.

BEES—BEE HOUSES.

Beard's Patent Bee Houses, with Bees in them or
without Bees. Price, with Bees in them and the
Right for one farm, from twenty-five to fifty dollars
apiece. The above Bee Houses contain from two
to four swarms each, in two separate apartments—
each apartment contains two hives and thirty-six
boxes; the whole house contains seventy-two boxes
and four hives—and is so constructed that you
have no occasion to kill any Bees for time.

Price of empty Bee Houses, with a farm Right,
fifteen dollars; Right without a house, for a farm,
five dollars; Right for a good town for keeping
Bees, forty dollars; those not so good, in proportion.
Letters, post paid, will receive immediate attention.

EBENEZER BEARD.

New Sharon, March, 1838.

6m5.

The Maine Farmer
IS ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING.
In a quarto form, making at the end of the year a
volume of over 400 pages, to which will be given
a Title Page and Index.

TERMS.—Price \$2 per annum, if paid within the
year—\$2.50 will be charged if payment is de-
layed beyond the year.

In any town where we have not less than six
subscribers, we will appoint an Agent who will
receive the pay for a year's subscription in grain
or any kind of produce that is not liable to be
injured by frost, and is convenient of transpor-
tation to market, at such price as it is worth in said
town.

Any person who will obtain six responsible sub-
scribers, and act as Agent, shall receive a copy
for his services, so long as they continue their
subscription.

Any paper will be discontinued at the request of
a subscriber when all arrearages are paid, and
if payment be made to an agent, for two num-
bers more than have been received.

All letters to insure attention must come free of
postage, directed to the publisher of the *Maine*
Farmer, Hallowell."